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The situation in the Middle East

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Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 15 May 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I attach herewith a letter containing a complaint against the enemy Israeli forces, which opened fire today on a group of unarmed civilians who were gathering in the town of Maroun Al Ras in south Lebanon, killing 10 civilians and wounding 112, some of whom are in critical condition (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 15 May 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Despite the heightened measures taken by the Lebanese Army in relation to the commemoration of the Nakbah in Marun al-Ra's, which is located in southern Lebanon, Israeli enemy forces fired at a group of unarmed civilians who had gathered at the above-mentioned location to observe the occasion, killing 10 persons and wounding 112 others, some critically.

The killing and wounding yet again of innocent civilians by the Israeli enemy is an act of aggression and reaffirms Israel's violation of Lebanese sovereignty and its disregard of United Nations resolutions. It also reaffirms the hostile nature of Israel, which has never hesitated to arbitrarily use force against civilians, in flagrant violation of international laws and norms, including international humanitarian law. Lebanon calls on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibility to maintain international peace and security. The Council should bring pressure to bear on Israel in order to compel it to end both its hostile policy towards Lebanon and its acts of provocation, and to hold it responsible for attacking and killing civilians.